



2877

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of
Philippe J. Goix
Serial No: 09/600,021

Filed: July 7, 2000

For: *Method and Apparatus for Detecting
Microparticles in Fluid Samples*

Examiner: EVANS, FANNIE L

Art Unit: 2877

AMENDMENT

Date: February 4, 2003

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Wang
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent via U.S. First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on February 4, 2003.

Signed: _____

Lori Cox
Lori Cox

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed November 20, 2002.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. All pending claims, whether or not amended, are presented below for the Examiner's convenience.

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1. (twice amended) A device for detecting a microparticle in a fluid, the microparticle being tagged with a fluorescent substance, the fluorescent substance emitting fluorescent light of predetermined wavelengths when exposed to electromagnetic radiation, the device comprising:

- a capillary tube;
- a fluid delivery system coupled to the capillary tube, the fluid delivery system capable of causing the microparticle and the fluid to flow through the capillary tube;
- a source of electromagnetic radiation for projecting a substantially parallel beam of electromagnetic radiation of predetermined wavelength and size through said capillary tube in proximity to the capillary tube to expose the fluorescent substance in a volume of the fluid defined by the beam size and the interior of the capillary tube to electromagnetic radiation to cause emission of fluorescent light by said fluorescent substance in said volume;